

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

| | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| Applicant's or agent's file reference 96.80422/001 | FOR FURTHER ACTION | | see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, Item 5 below. |
| International application No. PCT/GB2004/001368 | International filing date (day/month/year) 29/03/2004 | (Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 28/03/2003 | |
| Applicant ARX LIMITED | | | |

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 5 sheets.

☒

It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐

The international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

☐

b. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. ☒ **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box II).

3. ☐ **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box III).

4. With regard to the **title**,

☒

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐

the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the **abstract**,

☒

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐

the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regards to the **drawings**,

a. the figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 3

☐

as suggested by the applicant.

☐

as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☒

as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

☐

b. none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/GB2004/001368

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 B65C1/04 B65C9/18 B65C9/30 A61J7/00 B65G1/137

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 B65C A61J B65G

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|--|-----------------------|
| X | US 2002/099467 A1 (BARGH ADRIAN NEIL ET AL) 25 July 2002 (2002-07-25) paragraph '0062! paragraph '0063! paragraph '0123! ----- | 1 |
| X | US 6 173 551 B1 (BOWMAN JR RICHARD E ET AL) 16 January 2001 (2001-01-16) abstract; figures 3,4 ----- | 12 |
| X | EP 0 473 846 A (GRAPHICO CORP) 11 March 1992 (1992-03-11) column 1, line 35 - line 44 ----- | 12 |
| A | DE 40 42 096 A (RHONE POULENC AGROCHIMIE) 4 July 1991 (1991-07-04) figure ----- -/-- | 12 |

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

E earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

L document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

G document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

21 June 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

02/07/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Martínez Navarro, A.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/GB2004/001368

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|---|-----------------------|
| A | DE 27 02 482 A (FERRERO OHG) 27 July 1978 (1978-07-27) figure 2 ----- | 12 |
| A | US 4 095 394 A (EVRARD JACQUES EDMOND MAURICE) 20 June 1978 (1978-06-20) figures 3-5 ----- | 12 |
| A | US 1 425 351 A (WEEKS CHARLES S) 8 August 1922 (1922-08-08) figure 17 ----- | 12 |
| A | US 5 713 485 A (LIFF HAROLD J ET AL) 3 February 1998 (1998-02-03) abstract ----- | 1 |

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/GB2004/001368

| Patent document cited in search report | Publication date | Patent family member(s) | Publication date |
|---|---------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| US 2002099467 | A1 | 25-07-2002 | US 6317648 B1 13-11-2001 |
| | | | US 2003176942 A1 18-09-2003 |
| | | | AU 732628 B2 26-04-2001 |
| | | | AU 4409697 A 26-03-1998 |
| | | | CA 2265537 A1 12-03-1998 |
| | | | EP 1009359 A1 21-06-2000 |
| | | | JP 2002506358 T 26-02-2002 |
| | | | WO 9809598 A1 12-03-1998 |
| US 6173551 | B1 | 16-01-2001 | AU 3449799 A 25-10-1999 |
| | | | EP 1115618 A1 18-07-2001 |
| | | | WO 9951500 A1 14-10-1999 |
| EP 0473846 | A | 11-03-1992 | JP 4006032 A 10-01-1992 |
| | | | CA 2028631 A1 14-10-1991 |
| | | | EP 0473846 A1 11-03-1992 |
| | | | US 5084127 A 28-01-1992 |
| DE 4042096 | A | 04-07-1991 | FR 2656589 A1 05-07-1991 |
| | | | DE 4042096 A1 04-07-1991 |
| | | | WO 9301094 A1 21-01-1993 |
| DE 2702482 | A | 27-07-1978 | DE 2702482 A1 27-07-1978 |
| US 4095394 | A | 20-06-1978 | NONE |
| US 1425351 | A | 08-08-1922 | NONE |
| US 5713485 | A | 03-02-1998 | AT 225159 T 15-10-2002 |
| | | | DE 69624125 D1 07-11-2002 |
| | | | DE 69624125 T2 26-06-2003 |
| | | | EP 1226806 A2 31-07-2002 |
| | | | EP 0855894 A1 05-08-1998 |
| | | | US 6068156 A 30-05-2000 |
| | | | US 2002100762 A1 01-08-2002 |
| | | | WO 9714393 A1 24-04-1997 |
| | | | US 2003055531 A1 20-03-2003 |
| | | | US 2003074218 A1 17-04-2003 |
| | | | US 2003088333 A1 08-05-2003 |
| | | | US 2003121929 A1 03-07-2003 |
| | | | US 2003189058 A1 09-10-2003 |
| | | | US 6283322 B1 04-09-2001 |
| | | | US 5797515 A 25-08-1998 |
| | | | US 2002070226 A1 13-06-2002 |

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box II.2

Claims Nos.: 16-20,57-61

Rule 39.1.vi PCT

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure. If the application proceeds into the regional phase before the EPO, the applicant is reminded that a search may be carried out during examination before the EPO (see EPO Guideline C-VI, 8.5), should the problems which led to the Article 17(2) declaration be overcome.